

**PHASE II PUBLIC
REVIEW**

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CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

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Date: February 27, 1997

To: BDAC Members

From: Judy Kelly, Deputy Director *Judy Kelly*
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Opportunities for Public Involvement in Phase II

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has made an on-going commitment to involve Californians throughout the state in the process to develop a long-term solution for the Bay-Delta system. As the Program begins to integrate the Program components and initiates impact analysis, the Program's public involvement and outreach efforts will continue and intensify.

Actions Since October, 1996

At the October BDAC meeting, members were given an overview of public involvement efforts. Since October, several additional activities have occurred.

- In November, the Ecosystem Restoration Program held a public workshop seeking input on the process to establish ecosystem restoration targets.
- Workshops reviewing and seeking comments on the Water Quality and System Integrity programs were held in January and February.
- BDAC Work Groups on ecosystem restoration, water use efficiency, and assurances have continued providing public forums for discussions on development of those Program components.
- Public meetings on assessment tools for fisheries for the Environmental Impact Report/Statement were held in February.
- Presentations about the CALFED Program by the staff and Lester Snow were made to several organizations including: the Conference on Environmental Science and Policy, the Metropolitan Water District Member and Subagency Conference, the Association of California Water Agencies, the Annual Conference of County Agricultural Commissioners, the California Irrigation Institute, the Kern County Water Agency, the Western Grower's Association, the Newhall Land Company, and business and government leaders in the Silicon Valley.
- Preparation of a Briefing Book was initiated which will be used for briefing legislative and other decision makers.

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

Future Opportunities for Involvement

A current calendar of public meetings is enclosed in this packet. Events of particular significance this spring include:

- March 20th - Water Use Efficiency/Storage & Conveyance Workshops
- April 8th - Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan Workshop
- May 15th - Finance/Assurances Workshops

These events will be opportunities to review interim drafts of Program component documents and progress to date. Following the Program component workshops, BDAC, work groups and other public meetings will provide additional opportunities for public review and comment on the drafts and alternatives.

In addition, there will be several opportunities for public involvement in the Programmatic EIR/EIS development process. These opportunities revolve around two areas of activity, impact analysis and public review of the draft document and are listed below.

Impact Analysis

- Discussion of Impact Analysis
Assessment Tools April 1997
- Discussion of Results of Impact Analysis June - August 1997

Draft EIR/EIS

- Public Review of Draft, including
public hearings and workshops November 1997 - May 1998

Final EIR/EIS

- Public Review of Final EIR/EIS August 1998 - September 1998